(b) the details of the offers accepted and rejected stating the reasons for their rejection;

(c) whether, before implementation of the accepted proposals, Government propose to set up Prasar Bharati Corporation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (d) The Inter-Departmental Committee set up by Government to suggest options available to the Government for implementation of the scheme for offering broadcasting rights to public corporations after making an in-depth study of all the relevant aspects had, *inter alia*, met representatives of groups which had shown interest in setting up and running the new broadcasting channels to elicit their views in the matter. No formal proposals have so far been invited in this regard by the Government and, as such, there is no question of acceptance or rejection of any proposal.

विदेशी कार्यक्रमों की बढ़ती हुई लोकप्रियता

1408. **डा० अबरार अहमद :** क्या **सूचना और प्रसारण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि हमारे देश में पाकिस्तान बंगलादेश और नेपाल दूरदर्शन के कार्यक्रम लोकप्रिय बनते जा रहे हैं; यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो देश में अपने दूरदर्शन के कार्यक्रमों को लोकप्रिय बनाने के लिए सरकार की क्या योजनायें हैं ; और

(ग) पहले से स्वीकृत किए जा चुके पुराने धारावाहिकों की संख्या कितनी है और क्या इन्हें पुनः दिखाए जाने का विचार है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) और (ख) इस बात का कोई स्पष्ट प्रमाण नहीं है । तथापि दूरदर्शन के कार्यक्रम फार्मेट में गुणात्मक सुधार लाने के लिए सतत प्रयास जारी हैं ताकि इसके दर्शकों की रूचि बनी रहे ।

(ग) पुरानी प्रायोजन स्कीम के अंतर्गत 19 धारावाहिक पहले से ही अनुमोदित और प्रसारण की प्रतीक्षा में हैं । पहले अनुमोदित और प्रसारित सभी धारावाहिकों को फिर से प्रसारित किए जाने का कोई कार्यक्रम नहीं है ।

Caution against privatisation of media

1409. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item captioned "Caution against T.V., Radio privatisation" which appeared in the *Hindustan Times* of October 30, 1991; and

(b if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The contents of the news item have been noted.

Documentary on Deendayal Upadhyaya

1410. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a documentary was telecast on T.V. regarding Late Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya on

his birth anniversary on the 25th September, 1991;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the documentary was not telecast on National Channel;

(c) whether this fact was pointed out to the Ministry and is so, action taken thereon;

(d) whether Government have set up some uniform norms in the matter of telecasting such documentaries on national leaders; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The scheduling for telecast of the programme was done by Doordarshan. The fact was pointed out to the Ministry after the telecast was over.

(d) and (e) Programmes on the lives and contributions of National leaders are telecast on the occasion of important anniversaries. However, telecast of such programmes are dependent on programme requirements on such occasion.

Profits earned through Doordarshan commercials

1411. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the total amount of profits earned by Government through Doordarshan commercials during March 1990-March 1991?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): The gross commercial revenue earned by Doordarshan during the financial year 1990-91 was Rs. 253.85 crores.

Policy to allow only thirteen episodes to a serial

1412. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has recently adopted a policy of allowing only thirteen episodes of a serial irrespective of the demand for its contents;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the episodes have been terminated after thirteenth episode when the stories were in the mid way; and

(c) if so the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) According to the guidelines issued by Government on 1st October, 1990, the number of episodes of a serial shall not normally exceed 13. A larger number of episodes, if required in the interest of the proper treatment of the story line, can also be allowed subject to the recommendation of the Selection Committee and the prior approval of the competent authority.

सर्वाधिक प्रचार संख्या वाले दैनिक समाचार-पत्र

1413. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश के सर्वाधिक प्रसार-संख्या वाले दस दैनिक समाचार-पत्र कौन-कौन से हैं और प्रत्येक समाचार-पत्र की प्रसार-संख्या कितनी है ?